

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-12 remain pending in this application, with claim 1 being amended.

Claims 1-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,007,359 (Kosmala) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,139,360 (Hayashi); claim 8 stands rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over Kosmala, Hayashi and U.S. Patent No. 4,736,275 (Kendall); and claims 9-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Kosmala, Hayashi and U.S. Patent No. 4,572,604 (Ammon).

Applicants respectfully traverse.

Kosmala teaches a shielded plug connector 30 and a receptacle connector 12 which includes a cam wall 26 that lies directly over the contact pads 20. The cam wall 26 is constructed of insulative or dielectric material such as a typical engineering plastic, to avoid connecting the different plug contacts 32 together when depressing them against the contact pads 20. See Col. 2, lines 9, 10 and 25-29.

Applicants' respectfully refer the Examiner to Applicants' amended claim 1 which states "non-shielded edge fingers". Support for this may be found in the specification at least on page 6, paragraph 15. Kosmala's contact pads are surrounded by the cam wall which is used as a shield around the contact pads.

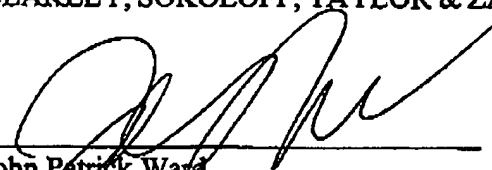
In summary, for the reasons noted above, Claims 1-12 are distinguished over the cited art and are in condition for allowance. It is respectfully submitted that in view of the amendments and arguments set forth herein, the applicable rejections and objections have been overcome. Favorable action is respectfully solicited. Allowance of the Claims is respectfully requested.

Please charge any additional charges to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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